

April 2, 1952

Hon. Dean Acheson  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

We have examined carefully the letter of March 19, 1952, from Mr. Carlisle Humelsine in reference to a conference which took place at the State Department October 12, 1942, between Mr. Sumner Welles, Mr. Earl Browder, Mr. Robert Minor and Mr. Lauchlin Currie. In this connection, we should like to have the full State Department records on this conference precisely as they appeared. *100-88454*

We should also like to know the steps by which this conference was arranged, who was responsible, and the correspondence that was exchanged in connection therewith.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarran  
Chairman

DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
Washington

Apr. 11 1952

My dear Senator McCarran:

I refer to your letter to the Secretary of April 2 in which you request Department of State records on the conference "which took place at the State Department, October 12, 1942 between Mr. Sumner Welles, Mr. Earl Browder, Mr. Robert Minor and Mr. Lauchlin Currie." You also request information regarding "the steps by which this conference was arranged, who was responsible, and the correspondence that was exchanged in connection therewith".

As I stated in my letter to you of March 19, the Department's investigation into the history of this meeting reveals little more than the fact that Mr. Welles did meet with Mr. Browder on October 12, 1942 at which time Mr. Welles handed Mr. Browder a memorandum concerning U.S. policy in the Far East. Although the Department cannot locate a verified copy of this memorandum, our files do contain several letters in response to requests for copies of this memorandum in which it was stated that "a verbatim text of the memorandum, as given by Mr. Browder to the press, appeared in the October 18 167, 1942 issue of The Worker". I enclose two such replies.

A thorough search of the Department's files does not reveal whether either Robert Minor or Lauchlin Currie, or both, attended the Welles-Browder conference on October 12, 1942; any invitation to Mr. Browder or to anyone else to attend this meeting; any correspondence in regard to calling the meeting; any memorandum of conversation or record of the meeting; or any record of who drafted the memorandum handed by Mr. Welles to Mr. Browder.

Since they may be of interest to you, I am also enclosing copies of the following letters which bear on the Welles-Browder meeting: (1) letter from Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk to Mr. Sumner Welles, dated September 26, 1951; (2) reply from Mr. Welles, dated October 10, 1951; (3) letter from Mr. Rusk to Dr. Stanley K. Hornbeck, dated May 19, 1950; and (4) reply from Dr. Hornbeck, dated June 7, 1950.